

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL/SECURITY

INFORMATION
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Iraq

DATE DISTR. 7 Nov 52

25X1C SUBJECT Planned Use of Radio in Education/Reception of Foreign Broadcasts

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(LISTED BELOW)SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. The Baghdad broadcasting station is controlled by the Directorate General of Propaganda in the Interior Ministry. The Director, Khalil Ibrahim, has appointed a secretary of a committee, known as the Broadcasting Station Committee, to arrange educational programs. The secretary determines the type of program to be presented and selects appropriate representatives from the educational field to assist in each presentation. There is no similar committee in other fields as the remainder of the programs are handled by paid employees. Only one-half hour per week has been allotted to educational work.

2. In planning and producing educational programs, the secretary and selected committee have been free to do as they wish. [REDACTED] that any of the programs offered by the station have been used to promote the interests of any political party.

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3. [REDACTED]

4. Mobile units to visit villages regularly will be provided so that visual aids may be utilized as well as recorded programs. Five or six such units are now available and 14 more have been ordered. Work will be handicapped by lack of trained help [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] Social centers equipped with radio receivers and motion picture equipment are also planned.

5. Programs must be directed first along practical lines to educate the illiterate masses in modern health and sanitation, and social consciousness. Then must come instruction in better methods for daily work, mainly in agriculture. Purely cultural training must wait until these more pressing needs are satisfied.

6. It has been found that using sheiks on radio programs has done much to gain their cooperation and arouse interest in the masses. This practice will be extended.

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7. Programs from other countries are heard by only a small part of the people. Stations in Cairo and Cyprus are heard best. London, Tehran, and Delhi are also heard well. I have never heard broadcasts from the USSR and hear nothing to indicate others listen to such stations. The VOA broadcasts from Frankfurt are heard fairly well but arouse little interest. I have never heard of these broadcasts being jammed.
8. Judging by acknowledgments received by the Baghdad station, their broadcasts have not been widely heard, chiefly in Syria and Lebanon.

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